

CITY OF BISMARCK EMPLOYEE PENSION PLAN

INVESTMENT POLICY STATEMENT

1. PLAN CHARACTERISTICS AND FUND CONSTRAINTS.

The Bismarck, North Dakota City Employee Pension Plan (BCEPP) is the pension benefit plan (Fund) established for the city of Bismarck public employees. The Fund is administered by the Bismarck City Employee Pension Plan Board of Trustees. The Fund is a defined benefit pension plan maintained to provide retirement benefits, and/or death benefits as may be the case, to the participants in accordance with Chapter 9-07 of the city of Bismarck Code of Ordinance (1986 revised). The Fund is administered in accordance with IRS and Treasury Regulations.

The Fund and benefits provided are funded by contributions from the members and members' employer. The Fund was established to provide benefits to members eligible to receive them in accordance with the provisions of the Fund.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES AND DISCRETION OF THE STATE INVESTMENT BOARD (SIB).

The BCEPP Board has entered into a contract with the SIB for investment services as allowed under NDCC 21-10-06. The BCEPP Board is responsible for establishing policies on investment goals and asset allocation of the Fund. The SIB is charged with implementing these policies and asset allocation and investing the assets of the Fund in the manner provided in NDCC 21-10-07, the prudent institutional investor rule. The fiduciaries shall exercise the judgment and care, under the circumstances then prevailing, that an institutional investor of ordinary prudence, discretion, and intelligence exercises in the management of large investments entrusted to it, not in regard to speculation but in regard to the permanent disposition of funds, considering probable safety of capital as well as probable income. The Fund must be invested exclusively for the benefit of the members and their beneficiaries in accordance with this investment policy.

The SIB may delegate investment responsibility to professional money managers. Where a money manager has been retained, the SIB's role in determining investment strategy and security selection is supervisory not advisory.

At the discretion of the SIB, the Fund's assets may be pooled with other funds. In pooling funds, the SIB may establish whatever asset class pools it deems necessary with specific quality, diversification, restrictions, and performance objectives appropriate to the prudent investor rule and the objectives of the funds participating in the pools.

The SIB is responsible for establishing criteria, procedures, and making decisions with respect to hiring, keeping, and terminating money managers. SIB investment responsibility also includes selecting performance measurement services, consultants, report formats, and frequency of meetings with managers.

The SIB will implement changes to this policy as promptly as is prudent.

3. STANDARDS OF INVESTMENT PERFORMANCE.

Investments of the Fund must seek to generate sufficient return to meet the goals outlined in this policy. The objectives established in this section are in accordance with the fiduciary requirement as set forth in federal and state law.

It is in the best interest of the Fund and its beneficiaries that objectives be established for the total Fund. It is clearly understood these objectives are to be viewed over the long term and have been established after full consideration of all factors set forth in this statement.

- a. The Fund should produce a rate of return, over any given time period, that matches or exceeds that of the policy portfolio which is comprised of policy weights of appropriate asset class benchmarks as set by the SIB and reflected in the monthly investment performance reports.
- b. The annual standard deviation of total returns for the Fund should not exceed that of the policy portfolio.
- c. Over 10 year and longer time periods the Fund should match or exceed the expected 8.6% rate of return assumed in the asset/liability study. Expected risk for the period, measured by standard deviation, is 9.7%.

4. POLICY AND GUIDELINES

The asset allocation of the Fund is established by the BCEPP Board, with input from consultants and RIO staff. Asset allocation is based upon the asset/liability study completed by SEI in March 2006. That study provided an appraisal of current cash flow projections and estimates of the investment returns likely to be achieved by the various asset classes over the next 20 years.

In recognition of the Fund's objectives, benefit projections, and capital market expectations, the following is the asset allocation for the Fund:

Domestic Equities - Large Cap	20.0%
Domestic Equities – Small Cap	12.0%
International Equities	11.0%
Emerging Markets Equities	2.0%
Domestic Fixed Income	29.0%
High Yield Fixed Income	6.0%
International Fixed Income	9.5%
Real Estate	9.5%
Alternative Investments	1.0%
Expected Return	8.6%
Standard Deviation of Returns	9.7%

Rebalancing of the Fund's investment portfolio to this target must be done as soon as feasible while ensuring the process is effectively coordinated and accomplished in a cost

effective manner. Maintenance of allocations to this target must be done in accordance with the SIB's rebalancing policy.

While the SIB is responsible for establishing specific quality, diversification, restrictions, and performance objectives for the investment vehicles in which the Fund's assets will be invested, it is understood that:

- a. Futures and options may be used to hedge or replicate underlying index exposure, but not for speculation.
- b. Derivatives use will be monitored to ensure that undue risks are not taken by the money managers.
- c. No transaction shall be made which threatens the tax exempt status of the Fund.
- d. All assets will be held in custody by the SIB's master custodian or such other custodians as are acceptable to the SIB.
- e. No unhedged short sales or speculative margin purchases shall be made.
- f. Social investing is prohibited unless it meets the Exclusive Benefit Rule and it can be substantiated that the investment must provide an equivalent or superior rate of return for a similar investment with a similar time horizon and similar risk.

For the purpose of this document, Social Investing is defined as *"The investment or commitment of public pension fund money for the purpose of obtaining an effect other than a maximized return to the intended beneficiaries."*

- g. Economically targeted investing is prohibited unless the investment meets the Exclusive Benefit Rule.

For the purpose of this document economically targeted investment is defined as an investment designed to produce a competitive rate of return commensurate with risk involved, as well as to create collateral economic benefits for a targeted geographic area, group of people, or sector of the economy.

Also, for the purpose of this document, the Exclusive Benefit Rule is met if the following four conditions are satisfied:

- (1) The cost does not exceed the fair market value at the time of investment.
- (2) The investment provides the Fund with an equivalent or superior rate of return for a similar investment with a similar time horizon and similar risk.
- (3) Sufficient liquidity is maintained in the Fund to permit distributions in accordance with the terms of the plan.
- (4) The safeguards and diversity that a prudent investor would adhere to are present.

Where investment characteristics, including yield, risk, and liquidity are equivalent, the BCEPP Board's policy favors investments which will have a positive impact on the economy of North Dakota.

5. INTERNAL CONTROLS

A system of internal controls must be in place by the SIB to prevent losses of public funds arising from fraud or employee error. Such controls deemed most important are the separation of responsibilities for investment purchases from the recording of investment activity, custodial safekeeping, written confirmation of investment transactions, and established criteria for broker relationships. The annual financial audit must include a comprehensive review of the portfolio, accounting procedures for security transactions and compliance with the investment policy.

6. EVALUATION AND REVIEW.

Investment management of the Fund will be evaluated against the Fund's investment objectives and investment performance standards. Emphasis will be placed on three and five year results. Evaluation should include an assessment of the continued feasibility of achieving the investment objectives and the appropriateness of the Investment Policy Statement for achieving those objectives.

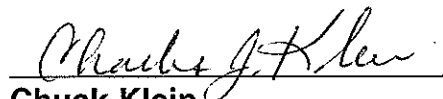
Performance reports will be provided to the BCEPP periodically, but not less than quarterly. Such reports will include asset returns and allocation data as well as information regarding all significant and/or material matters and changes pertaining to the investment of the Fund, including, but not limited to:

- Changes in asset class portfolio structures, tactical approaches and market values;
- All material legal or legislative proceedings affecting the SIB.

All major liability assumptions regarding number of participants, compensation, benefit levels, and actuarial assumptions will be subject to review by the BCEPP at such frequency as that board deems appropriate. Any material changes will be reported to the SIB in writing.

Approved by:

CITY OF BISMARCK


Chuck Klein
Director of Human Resources

Date: 4-6-06

STATE INVESTMENT BOARD


Steve Cochrane
Executive Director/CIO

Date: 4-21-06